

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 OES-07 ERDA-05 NRC-05 ACDA-07
PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 DODE-00
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P 230830Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8873

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FOR DR. LAWRENCE SCHEINMAN, T

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, TECH, ENRG, JA

SUBJECT: A POPULAR VIEW OF US/JAPAN NUCLEAR ISSUE

1. WITH ARRIVAL OF US REPROCESSING STUDY TEAM NOW IMMINENT, WE OFFER FOLLOWING TRANSLATION FROM JUNE 20 ISSUE OF SANKEI SHIMBUN AS BEING REPRESENTATIVE OF IMPACT OF US NUCLEAR POLICY ON KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS IN JAPAN. EMBOFFS WHO HAVE MET WITH INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS TO DISCUSS OUR POLICY TYPICALLY RECEIVE THIS KIND OF REACTION, WHICH INDICATES THE JAPANESE INABILITY TO LOOK UPON NON-PROLIFERATION AS AN INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM, RATHER THAN FOCUS ON ITS SPECIFIC EFFECT IN JAPAN. FULL TRANSLATION IS TRANSMITTED IN HOPE THAT IT WILL BE OF USE TO HEAD OF US DEL IN HIS REMARKS TO PRESS ON ARRIVAL AND LATER IN HIS STAY.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

WHAT I DESIRE OF US AMBASSADOR: KYOTO INDUSTRIAL UNIVERSITY
PROFESSOR MICHIMASA IRIE

FIRST OF ALL, I WANT TO SAY HEARTILY IN THIS COLUMN
WELCOME TO NEW AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN MANSFIELD. THE
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NEW AMBASSADOR WILL SURELY PLAY A GREAT ROLE IN
PROMOTION OF FRIENDLY AND CO-OPERATIVE RELATIONS
BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE US, WHICH ARE OF VITAL
IMPORTANCE TO JAPAN, AND ARE PROBABLY IMPORTANT FOR THE
US, TOO.

FOR THESE SEVERAL YEARS, JAPAN AND THE US HAVE GENERALLY

HAD EXTREMELY GOOD RELATIONS, EVEN IF THERE IS THE PROBLEM OF THE IMBALANCE IN TRADE AND BURDEN-SHARING. THE ANTI-AMERICAN, ANTI-SECURITY TREATY AND ANTI-BASE MOOD, WHICH WAS ONCE RAGING EXTREMELY AMONG SOME JAPANESE PEOPLE, HAS BECOME COMPLETELY CALM TODAY AFTER THE REVERSION OF OKINAWA AND COLLAPSE OF VIETNAM. WE WERE GREATLY PLEASED ABOUT THAT FOR JAPAN, A FREE NATION. THIS IS BECAUSE WE THOUGHT THAT WE HAD OVERCOME THE LAST HURDLE FOR THE FIRING UP OF JAPAN-US FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATIVE RELATIONS.

HOWEVER, AN ONIMOUS CLOUD HAS BEGUN TO APPEAR IN THE FUTURE OF JAPAN-US RELATIONS, WHICH WERE CONSIDERED SMOOTH. AS PRESIDENT CARTER IS TOO ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE SECURING OF EFFECTIVENESS OF PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, THE US BEGAN TO HOLD DOWN SUCH PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY BY JAPAN AS NUCLEAR FUEL REPROCESSING AND OPERATION OF FAST-BREEDER REACTORS, IN FEAR THAT IT MAY BE USED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES. US NUCLEAR POLICY OF THIS KIND INVOLVES A GREAT RISK OF DRIVING AN UNPRECEDENTEDLY WIDE RANGE OF JAPANESE PEOPLE, INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN KNOWN AS PRO-AMERICAN, OR WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THE NPT, INTO THE CORNER OF ANTI-AMERICANS. THIS IS BECAUSE THE JAPANESE PEOPLE CANNOT HELP BUT TAKE IT TO MEAN THAT APPLICATION OF CARTER'S NUCLEAR POLICY TO JAPAN PROVES, FIRST OF ALL, THAT THE US DOES NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BASICALLY TRUST JAPAN. SECONDLY, IT IS UNBEARABLE THAT A FOREIGN NATION WILL HOLD DOWN SUCH DEVELOPMENT OF FRONTIER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AS PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY WHILE WE ARE IN THE NUCLEAR AGE, AND OUR COUNTRY WILL BE FORCED TO STAY A SECOND-CLASS NATION IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY. I HOPE THAT THE US WILL NOT FORGET THAT THE JAPANESE PEOPLE ARE VERY PROUD PEOPLE. MR. MANSFIELD REPORTEDLY TESTIFIED AT THE CONGRESS RECENTLY ON THE OUTLOOK THAT JAPAN WILL NOT ARM ITSELF WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS. I WANT YOU TO ADVISE TO PRESIDENT CARTER TOO THAT FEARS ABOUT NUCLEAR ARMAMENT WILL BE HARMFUL AND USELESS, AS FAR AS JAPAN IS CONCERNED. I EARNESTLY HOPE FOR IT AS A PRO-AMERICAN LIBERAL, WHO SUPPORTS FULLY CARTER'S MORAL DIPLOMACY, INCLUDING GRADUAL WITHDRAWAL OF US GROUND FORCES FROM THE ROK AND HUMAN RIGHTS DIPLOMACY. END TEXT.
MANSFIELD

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